

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

OF DECEMBER 14,- DECEMBER 20, 2020

- Monday** – ISAIAH NM 24:2-7, 15-17A, MT 21:23-27
St. Benedict
- Tuesday** – ISAIAH ZEP 3:1-2, 9-13, MT 21:28-32
St. Bruno
- Wednesday** – PHILIPPIANS IS 45:6C-8, 18, 21C-25
LK 7:18B-23
St. Charles Borromeo
- Thursday** – PHILIPPIANS GN 49:2, 8-10, MT 1:1-17
St. Pelagia
- Friday** – MATTHEW JER 23:5-8, MT 1:18-25
St. Abraham
- Saturday** – IGNATIUS JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A, LK 1:5-25
St. Paulinus
- Sunday** – MATTHEW 2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16,
ROM 16:25-27, LK 1:26-38
St. John XXIII

AFTERTHOUGHTS

The Gospels link “joy” with life, with discovery, with Jesus. Where have you found joy?



CHRISTMAS DECOR

The beautiful pink poinsettias for mass this weekend are given in memory of Mama by Fr. Jay.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

- Dec 6th** In memory of Howard Buck Oubre, by Mr. & Mrs. Carroll J Bergeron
- Dec 13th** Intentions in honor of Shirley Walsh, Colleen Lewis, & Kathleen Martin, by Shirley Walsh



PRAY FOR: Christina Sparks, Barbara Toups., Sherman Brown, Mary Lee Boudreaux, Airman Wesley Speyrer, Nancy Rivere, Judy Porche, Patty LeJune, Margaret Gaudet, Robert Cazayoux, Linda Musson, Rosabelle Prosperie, Kayla Dudek Breaux, Percy Lee, Linda LeClair, Sadie Talbot, (open heart surgery), Barbara Gaidry, Wayne

Duplantis, Joy Blanchard, Marie Williams, Roy Reeves, Brenner Winston Babin (cancer), Christian Olden, Melanie Ougel, Monica Guidroz, Mark Voisin, Sybil Trahan, Bonnie Sponge, Lisa Collins Melancon, Linda Lee, JA Foret, Jason Chaisson, Donna Lapeyre, Alana Smith Breaux, Karen Breaux, Kellie Corte, Sonny & Patty West, Selma Ferjani, Olivia Niette, Lee Ann D. Leray and for all prayer shawl recipients. We also pray for all those who have recently died

Daily Prayers for Priests:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of the priesthood. We particularly thank you for the priests here in the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. We ask that you draw them ever closer to the Sacred Heart of Your Son Jesus. May they experience the depth of communion with you that you long for. Grant them stillness Lord, that they might perceive your presence. Heighten their spiritual senses that they might see and hear you ever more clearly and feel you ever more deeply. Remind them of their call. Remind them of all that you have promised them and they promised you on the sacred day of their ordination. We ask for miracles of renewal in their priestly vocation, Lord. Renew them in your love and strengthen their resolve to love and serve you. Strengthen their priestly fraternity, Lord, and strengthen the bond between the priests and the Laity, that together Lord, we all might be ONE as you are One. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

**MASS SCHEDULE
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S**

CHRISTMAS EVE – Thursday, Dec. 24th,
4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY – Friday, Dec. 25th,
12:00 am Midnight,
7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am & 5:30pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE – Thursday, December 31st,
4:00pm. Vigil,

NEW YEAR'S DAY – Friday, January 1st,
9:00am. & 11:00am

**2nd COLLECTION
– DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT FUND –
DECEMBER 12/13, 2020**

This collection is used to directly support
retired priests of our diocese.

Weekly Contribution Envelopes

Weekly contribution envelopes will be available for pick up after all Masses on the weekends of December 12th and December 13th, 2020. After this weekend the envelopes can be picked up at the rectory office. Envelopes are labeled with the recipient's name and envelope number and will be in alphabetical order. Volunteers will be available to assist you in finding your set of envelopes if assistance is needed. You can also stop by the office before or after those weekends to pick up your set. Questions - call the rectory at 876-6904.



CATHOLIC KORNER

Life in Christ:

Explanations of Catholic Practice and Devotions:

This week we will learn about Eucharistic Adoration:

Catholics believe that Jesus Christ is truly present, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist. In other words, in the consecrated host, Jesus is there, truly there. So it only stands to reason that, as Catholics worship Jesus, they would worship Him in the Blessed Sacrament. Outside of Mass, this is known as Eucharistic Adoration and is commonly done through exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. During exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a consecrated host is put into an often ornate receptacle called a monstrance. This is from the Latin word “monstrare,” which means, “to reveal.” A monstrance has a glass-covered hole in the middle, which reveals the Blessed Sacrament. The monstrance is brought in in a procession, and Eucharistic Adoration includes or ends with Benediction, or a blessing by the priest who makes the sign of the cross with the monstrance. The Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1378, says this: “The Catholic Church has always offered and still offers to the sacrament of the Eucharist the cult of adoration, not only during Mass, but also outside of it, reserving the consecrated hosts with the utmost care, exposing them to the solemn veneration of the faithful, and carrying them in procession.”

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Rosaries for Nations - An organization that encourages praying the rosary for all people, leaders of nations, and clergy. The Rosary is prayed prior to the 5:30PM weekday Mass and at 8:00AM each Saturday prior to the 8:30AM Mass.

STAY INFORMED

Please visit the Church website for posts, updates, and news. <https://stfrancisdesaleshouma.org/>

Please visit the Church Facebook page for posts, news, and videos. <https://www.facebook.com/Cathedral-of-St-Francis-DeSales-Church-Houma-121704657888318>

Please visit the Diocese website for the latest news, stories from Bayou Catholic, prayers, videos, etc. <https://hdiocese.org/coronavirus>

**December 2020
Mass Intentions**



Howard “Buck” Oubre	December 4,2020	Fri 12:05pm
Howard “Buck” Oubre	December 5,2020	Sat 8:30am
Andrew Martin	December 5,2020	4pm Vigil
Howard “Buck” Oubre	December 6, 2020	Sun 11am
John Bolduc	December 6, 2020	Sun 11am
Giles Padel	December 6, 2020	Sun 11am
Barry Songy	December 6, 2020	Sun 9am
Jimmy Cox	December 6, 2020	Sun 9am
Clark Dugas Sr	December 7, 2020	Daily 5:30pm
Edna Bajarsky	December 8, 2020	Daily 5:30pm
Ivy Smith Sr	December 12,2020	Daily 5:30pm
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Dazaine	December 13,2020	Sun 7am
Barry Songy	December 13,2020	Sun 9am
Jimmy Cox	December 13,2020	Sun 9am
John Bolduc	December 13,2020	Sun 11am
Isabelle St. Pierre Callahan	December 13,2020	Sun 11am
Shirley S Walsh	December 14,2020	Daily 5:30pm
Colleen W Walsh	December 14,2020	Daily 5:30pm
Kathleen W Martin	December 14,2020	Daily 5:30pm
Jace Prejean	December 16, 2020	Daily 5:30pm
May M Walsh	December 18,2020	Fri 12:05pm
James Lovell Jr	December 18,2020	Fri 12:05pm
CG Keplinger	December 19,2020	4pm Vigil
Guy Waggenspack	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Joseph Delaune	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Carmel Mask	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Bradley Cinnater	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Dr. Victor Tedesco	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Herbert Louvriere	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Howard Oubre	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Barry Songy Sr	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
John Bolduc	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Lucas Marcello	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Terry LeBlanc	December 20, 2020	Sun 11am
Jimmy Cox	December 20, 2020	Sun 9am
Mr. & Mrs. John Domangué	December 20, 2020	Sun 7am
Isabelle St. Pierre Callahan	December 24, 2020	Daily 5:30pm
Carol W Lee	December 24, 2020	Vigil Mass
Nicholas Martin	December 25, 2020	Fri 11am Christmas Mass
Jason Adam Dupont	December 25, 2020	Fri 11am Christmas Mass
Virgie Bergeron	December 25, 2020	Fri 11am Christmas Mass
Barry Songy	December 25, 2020	Fri 11am Christmas Mass
Norman Bergeron	December 25, 2020	Fri 11am Christmas Mass
Isabelle St. Pierre Callahan	December 25, 2020	Fri 11am Christmas Mass
CG Keplinger & Oron (Buck) Stutzman	December 25, 2020	Fri 11am Christmas Mass
Kerragen Ledet	December 26,2020	Sat 8:30am
Oron (Buck) Stutzman	December 26,2020	Sat 4pm
Jimmy Cox	December 27,2020	Sun 9am
Isabelle St. Pierre Callahan	December 27,2020	Sun 11am
John Bolduc	December 27,2020	Sun 11am
Kent Martin	December 27,2020	Sun 9am
Beth & Buck Oubre Jr.	December 30,2020	Daily 5:30pm

**LEGION PARK CHRISTMAS PROJECT
- DUE DECEMBER 12/13, 2020**

Christmas gift bags filled to the brim are rapidly flowing in for the children at Legion Park!

All gift bags are due back the weekend of December 12/13th - and can be dropped off in the vestibule of the church at whatever Mass you attend or you can also deliver them to the rectory. Thanks so much for making Christmas brighter for these children.



**BAPTISM SEMINAR - TEAM UP!
Can you help?**

*“Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments.”
CCC 1213*

Baptism - the basis of the *whole Christian life!* Such an important aspect of our faith life - and a wonderful opportunity to evangelize and educate first time parents! We are looking to add a team to our Baptism Seminar Schedule - and are in need of an additional person to join a team! Seminars are offered on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the convent. With the team rotation you would be required to host a seminar perhaps three (3) times a year. Please prayerfully consider joining our Baptism team in reaching out to parents and godparents to enhance their understanding of Baptism - and hopefully to expand their faith life into one that is active and abundantly fruitful! For more info or to sign up please email: cbutler@htdiocese.org

GOSPEL COMMENTARY

“I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord”

Today we hear the story of the Baptism of Jesus from the beginning of St. John's Gospel. John adds the information that “This happened in Bethany across from the Jordan where John was baptizing.” This situates the event on the east side of the Jordan River, not far from Herod's castle/fortress at Machaerus, where John would soon be beheaded. John the Baptist did not urge people to challenge the authority of leaders of the Jews or call for the overthrow of the civil government, or an armed revolt. He called upon people to change their own hearts and to live according to God's Commandment to love God and our neighbor as our self. This is how we “make straight the way of the Lord” to enter our hearts. For many this involves radical change. It involves a humble admission that **What We Are is God's Gift to Us; What We Become is Our Gift to God.** Are you still struggling with a gift for Jesus. Here it is: “Make straight the way of the Lord” to enter your heart by a humble admission of who God is in our lives.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday – December 06, 2020

Envelopes (168).....	\$ 10,116.00
Loose	\$ 1,096.36
Total	\$ 11,212.36



PARISH NEWS

Most Rev. David Toups, Bishop of Beaumont and native son of Houma, will celebrate the 9:00 am Sunday mass on 12/20/20. Let's give Bp. Toups a warm St. Francis Welcome!

THE TIE-IN – ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, “I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord.” Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call 985-872-2520. After the beep, clearly state your name, phone number, address, and nature of the request. One of our volunteers will call you back to arrange an appointment interview (caller id will not display the number).

Did you know that you can give online?

St. Francis de sales - ParishSOFT On-Line Giving

Look for this button on our church website.

<http://www.stfrancisdesaleshouma.org/on-line-giving.html>

Workbook for Lectors

The Workbook for Lectors for Year B - 2021 are in the sacristy, located in the area directly behind altar for pick-up. Every lector has a book with his or her name on the label. Couples have one book with both names on the label. All books are in alphabetical order for easy access. Please be sure to pick up your copy when you attend Mass. The new workbooks take effect the first week of Advent, November 29th. If you do not see a book with your name on it, please contact the rectory at 876-6904.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The Adoration Chapel remains open for adorers. We are still practicing safety measures, so please wear a mask in the Adoration Chapel.

St. Francis' Adoration Chapel current hours are 7am-6pm daily (Key fobs allow 24 hours access). All are welcome to come by and spend a few minutes with our Lord.

- Sunday – Donna Lapeyre – Home: 225-937-1861 - donnalapeyre@yahoo.com
- Monday – Candy Archila – Home: 985-868-1792 – jarchila@bellsouth.net
- Tuesday – Therese Oubre – Home: 985-226-2252 - Mobile: 225-329-6757 – tsoubre@att.net
- Wednesday – Melanie Babin: 985-709-3754 - mbabin1@comcast.net
- Thursday – Melva Fournier – Home: 985-873-7593 – Mobile: 985-226-7800 - melfour816@gmail.com
- Friday – Ana Vice – Mobile: 985-852-8110 – abvice1@gmail.com
- Saturday – Sue LeBlanc – Home: 985-879-2866 – Mobile: 985-688-9044 - leblancsss@yahoo.com



COMMUNITY NEWS

ADVENT

The Two-fold Character of Advent

“Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation”

(Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar #39, hereafter Universal Norms).



ADVENT – 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT



The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the “Shepherd's Candle,” and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and reminds us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

ASSISTANCE

Catholic Charities can assist those with rent and/or utilities if they have been affected by COVID shutdowns, loss of hours at work, or suffered some sort of injury or other illness that has prevented them from going to their places of employment and has set them back financially. If you or someone you know needs assistance you can access the online application here: <https://www.htdiocese.org/individual-and-family-assistance>



**MINISTERS SCHEDULE
WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 19-20, 2020**

Commentators	
4:00 PM	David Haddad
7:00 AM	John Breaux
9:00 AM	Melanie Shipp
11:00 AM	Ernie Perry
5:30 PM	Ann Bates

Lectors	
4:00 PM	Jody Duet
7:00 AM	Evelyn Ruckstuhl
9:00 AM	James Watkins
11:00 AM	Jenni McNabb
5:30 PM	Bubba Watkins



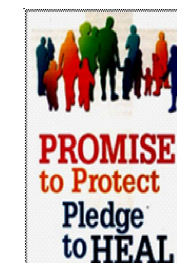
Ministers of the Eucharist	
4:00 PM	Holly Champagne, Bernita Guidry, Carlisle Jukes
7:00 AM	Richard Guidry, Carla Exnicious, William Blanchard
9:00 AM	Yvonne Fanguy, Jude Fanguy, Dale Norad
11:00 AM	Julie Rhodes, Rene Rhodes, Carol Domangue
5:30 PM	Jenny Briggs, Curtis Briggs, Gina Danos

SAINTS



13-Dec St Lucia
blindness, eyes, sore throats, authors, poor, stained glass workers, writers

DIOCESAN OUTREACH LINE



In response to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has made the following provision for anyone who has been hurt or sexually abused by anyone who works for the church. The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux has set up an Outreach Line for all victims/survivors of sexual abuse.

In continuing our commitment to support and healing, we invite and encourage people who have been hurt or sexually abused recently or in the past by clergy, religious or other employees of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, to call our outreach line. The Outreach Line operates from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily Monday through Friday. A trained mental health professional responds to the line. The Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Outreach Line telephone numbers are (985) 873-0026.